

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 BONN 14189 301543Z

ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00  
COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 L-03  
LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 SS-15 STR-04  
ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01 /086 W  
-----114707 302014Z /64

R 301524Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1027

USDA/FAS WASHDC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BONN 14189

FAS FOR WHITE AND OYLOE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, GW

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE FRG ACTION AFFECTING DRIED PRUNES

SUMMARY: GERMAN TRADE REPRESENTATIVES PLAN TO REQUEST THE GERMAN GOVERNMENT TO TAKE NECESSARY STEPS IN BRUSSELS TO OBTAIN: A. AT LEAST A ONE YEAR DELAY IN THE APPLICATION OF THE EC-WIDE LICENSING SYSTEM FOR DRIED PRUNES, WHICH WILL OTHERWISE BECOME EFFECTIVE ON JAN.1, 1978; AND B. A TEMPORARY TARIFF REDUCTION ON IMPORTS OF DRIED PRUNES FROM THIRD COUNTRIES INCLUDING THE U.S. EMBASSY INTENDS TO SUPPORT TRADE REQUEST. (THE NEW EC-WIDE LICENSING SYSTEM FOR PRUNES IS BASED ON EC REGULATION 516/77, ARTICLE 13,NO.4, OF MARCH 14,1977, PUBLISHED IN EC OJ NO. L 73/77.) END SUMMARY.

1. THE TRADE IS OPTIMISTIC THAT THE FRG WILL SUPPORT ITS REQUEST AND TAKE NECESSARY ACTION IN BRUSSELS. EMBASSY HAS ALREADY DISCUSSED SUCH MEASURES WITH RESPONSIBLE FEDMINAG OFFICIALS INDICATING THEY ARE IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 BONN 14189 301543Z

THE INTEREST OF US TRADE AS WELL AS MORE REASONABLE CONSUMER PRICES. FEDMINAG OFFICIAL EXPRESSED SYMPATHY WITH OUR REQUEST AND IT WAS AGREED WE WOULD SUPPLY PRUNE MARKET DATA WHICH COULD BE USED FOR A POSSIBLE FRG ACTION IN BRUSSELS.

2. THE TRADE'S TWO REQUESTS ARE BASED ON THE FOLLOWING

ARGUMENTS: IT WISHES TO POSTPONE THE APPLICATION OF THE LICENSING SYSTEM WHICH IT CONSIDERS A FINANCIAL AND AN ADMINISTRATIVE HINDRANCE TO TRADE AND THUS ALSO AN ADDITIONAL COST TO THE CONSUMER. THE REDUCTION OF THE DUTY ON DRIED PRUNES IS INTENDED TO ASSURE A REASONABLY PRICED SUPPLY IN THE FACE OF INADEQUATE EC SUPPLIES FORECAST FOR THE 1977/78 SEASON.

3. GERMANY IS ENTIRELY DEPENDENT ON IMPORTS AS IT PRODUCES NO DRIED PRUNES. IN RECENT YEARS, IMPORTS HAVE FLUCTUATED AROUND 6,000 - 7,000 M.T. ANNUALLY, INCREASING TO ALMOST 8,500 IN 1976. THE U.S. HAS GENERALLY BEEN THE MOST IMPORTANT SUPPLIER WITH ABOUT 33 PERCENT OF THE GERMAN MARKET (1971-75 AVERAGE, 2,086 M.T.) WHILE EC SUPPLIERS HAVE ONLY BEEN ABLE TO SHIP ABOUT 9 PERCENT OF FRG'S NEEDS (1971-75 AVERAGE). FOR 1976 (1975 IN PARENTHESIS), FIGURES IN M.T. ARE: TOTAL, 8,452 (6,190); U.S., 3,380 (3,060); ARGENTINA, 1,856 (269); BULGARIA, 1,259 (1,036); FRANCE, 225 (523); TOTAL EC, 546 (907).

4. FRANCE AND OTHER EC MEMBERS HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO SUPPLY FRG NEEDS EVEN IN GOOD CROP YEARS IN PAST. ACCORDING TO INFORMATION GIVEN TO US BY THE IMPORT TRADE (WHICH THEY WILL USE IN ARGUING THEIR CASE), THE AVERAGE FRENCH CROP IN 1970-74 WAS ABOUT 16,000 M.T., THE 1975 CROP LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 BONN 14189 301543Z

FAILED AT 500 M.T., AND THE 1976 CROP WAS AS HIGH AS 24,000 M.T. FRENCH IMPORTS REPEAT IMPORTS REPORTEDLY REACHED 14,000 M.T. IN 1975 AND 5,000 M.T. IN 1976. THE GERMAN TRADE REPORTS THE 1977 FRENCH CROP AS VARIOUSLY ESTIMATED BETWEEN 6,000 AND 8,000 M.T.

5. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE INFORMATION ON STATUS OF GATT PANEL ON MIP'S AND LICENSING SYSTEM, WHICH WE ASSUME WAS ALSO DIRECTED AGAINST PRUNES THOUGH LICENSING WILL NOT COME INTO EFFECT UNTIL JANUARY 1, 1978.  
MEEHAN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FRUIT, TRADE CONTROLS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 30-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977BONN14189  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770313-1008  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** BONN  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770810/aaaaahwo.tel  
**Line Count:** 105  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** c2a68c4e-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EB  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 31-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1397406  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** POSSIBLE FRG ACTION AFFECTING DRIED PRUNES SUMMARY: GERMAN TRADE REPRESENTATIVES PLAN TO REQUEST THE GERMAN GOVERNMENT TO TAKE NECESSARY STEPS IN  
**TAGS:** EAGR, GE  
**To:** STATE USDA  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/c2a68c4e-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009